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Case 7247M

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
DOUGLAS J. DOBROZSI :
Serial No. 09/361,542 : Group Art Unit 1615
Filed July 27, 1999 : Examiner A. Pulliam
For: ORAL LIQUID MUCOADHESIVE COMPOSITIONS

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In the accompanying Continued Prosecution Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), in the above-identified application, please enter this preliminary amendment to the claims.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims:

Claim 1 (twice amended). A muco-retentive, aqueous, liquid, pharmaceutical composition in oral dosage form comprising:

- (a) from about 2% to about 50%, by weight of the composition, of colloidal particles of silica;
- (b) a safe and effective amount of a pharmaceutical active selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal agents, analgesics, decongestants, expectorants, antitussives, antihistamines, bronchodilators, topical anesthetics, sensory agents, oral care agents, miscellaneous respiratory agents, and mixtures thereof;
- (c) a per oral or oral aqueous carrier; and
- (d) a dispensing device suitable for pouring,

wherein the composition has a sedimentation volume ratio of greater than about 0.90 when measured after about 48 hours and a triggered viscosity ratio of at least about 1.2; and wherein the composition is administered by swallowing.

Claim 24 (amended). A method of coating the alimentary canal by administering, by swallowing, a safe and effective amount of the aqueous, liquid composition of Claim 1.